

# TAMBOPATA RESEARCH CENTER

Life at the fullest! With this Amazon Experience, choose from a wide range of stand-out Amazon excursions. Do it at your own pace and create your own, custom experience.

## Macaw Clay Lick – Colorado

On most clear mornings of the year dozens of large macaws and hundreds of parrots and parakeets congregate in a raucous and colorful spectacle on a cliff located near the lodge. This spellbinding spectacle inspired a National Geographic cover story. We will install ourselves on the opposite side of the Tambopata River at approximately fifty meters (165 feet) from the cliff. From our unobtrusive spot and with the assistance of powerful telescopes and weather permitting, we will be able to observe Green-winged, Scarlet and Blue-and-gold Macaws and several species of smaller parrots and parakeets as they descend to ingest clay. Outings are at dawn when the clay lick is most active.

## Birdwatching: Beginners

Learn how to become a keen birdwatcher. The bird world at TRC is astoundingly diverse and the ideal place to catch the bird watching fever. During your outing with an expert birding guide, you will learn about the proper use of binoculars and telescopes, the basics about bird watching techniques, how to identify the main families, recognize sounds and their different habitats.



## Birdwatching: Moderate

If you're already familiar with the basics of birding and the proper use of your birding equipment, you are ready for the next step. On this excursion we will shift our focus from learning the basics to a more in-depth birding experience. Our main emphasis with the assistance of our birding guides, is to learn to differentiate between different habitats and to better understand the behavioral patterns of your favorite bird species.

## Birdwatching: Hardcore

This is the ideal activity for seasoned birdwatching lovers. With the assistance of our professional birding guides, we will help you find those species missing from your list. Tambopata holds a vast diversity of specific species. Get ready for an intense 4 hour birding session in order to search and try to find the elusive birds missing from your list.

## Secrets of the Surroundings

Explore the surrounding area around TRC at a relaxed pace. A pristine primary forest encircles the lodge so it is not necessary to wonder too far to have exiting encounters with a large diversity of flora and fauna. Accompanied by your guide, you will walk in a flood plain forest. Imposing ancient trees are the main feature along a trail that is crisscrossed by creeks and ponds. Among them are imposing tree species like the fig, ceiba and shihuahuaco, which host countless species of insects, reptiles and mammals.

## The World of Butterflies

If you love butterflies you will enjoy this activity. The Tambopata region holds the record for more species of butterflies in the world. Our researchers and guides have identified their favorite habitats according

to the species. Large, small, colorful, transparent... you are in for a delightful visual experience. Also this is a great chance to photograph these colorful creatures. Apart from witnessing an extraordinary nature show, you will have the opportunity to learn about their behavior and amazing adaptations methods to survive in the rainforest.

## Ceiba Walk

Embark on a hike on the Ceiba trail. The highlight during this hike is the encounter with largest tree in the vicinity: a giant ceiba. The native people consider these trees sacred. During the hike we will focus on the natural history of this majestic tree and learn why they are so special.

## Amazon Overlook Trail

A three to five-kilometer hike through a regenerating old bamboo forest will lead us to the edge of stunning overlooks which commands magnificent views of the capricious Tambopata River as it winds its way into the lowlands.

## Monkey Search

An entirely different habitat featuring smaller, thinner trees atop hills and slopes is covered by this five-kilometer trail. A favorite ecosystem for the many monkey species who inhabit Tambopata region. Great opportunity to learn about these curious and lively habitants of this captivating forest.

## Island Exploration & Pond

Ten minutes upriver from the lodge is a small pond with a platform in the middle. It is a great place to spot waterfowl such as the beautiful Agami heron, Capped heron, the rare curassow, Muscovy duck, Sunbittern and hoatzins along with woodpeckers, oropendolas, flycatchers and parakeets that call this pond their home. You will also have an opportunity to learn about the varieties of fish that live in the amazon. If you are fortunate you may even get to see a caiman or two.

## Palm Swamp Trail

Growing on the remains of an oxbow lake and providing both arboreal as well as terrestrial mammals with fruits throughout the year, the aguaje palms are one of the most important food sources in the rainforest. Unfortunately, this habitat is also in high demand by humans since the swamps provide ideal conditions for planting rice, making the palm swamps one of the most threatened habitats in the rainforest. Once thing is certain. Swamps are truly picturesque habitats and should be in everyone's short list of places to visit during your stay at TRC.

## Giants of the Amazon

Marvel at the rainforest's towering trees.

This five kilometer trail covers the prototypical rain forest with immense trees crisscrossed by creeks and ponds. Amongst the figs, ceibas and shihuahuacos we will look for Squirrel, Brown Capuchin, and Spider Monkeys as well as peccaries. TRC is located within this habitat.

Discover the Magnificence of Jungle Trees: This part of the forest teems with every type of tree, from enormous, 400-year-old Ironwoods to funny-looking "Potbellied" palms, with their tusk-like horn growths. Many trees tower up to 50 meters (about 160 feet) into the canopy, with truly giant trunks and far-ranging root systems that will leave you in awe.

## Adventure to de Bowl

Ready for a challenge? Join us on a 4-hours walk crossing different habitats. This is an early morning activity and one of the most rewarding in terms of wildlife encounters. Once at the Bowl, you learn about how this patch of forest changes through the seasons.

## Bamboo Trail

One of the most remarkable and mega diverse ecosystems in Tambopata is the bamboo forest. Bamboo is a fast growing plant. Where it grows, bamboo takes over and establishes a total different habitat. Learn more about what species choose this ecosystem as their home. This trail is particularly attractive for bird lovers since this is home to highly specialize species of birds, including some endemics.

## Amazon Creek Trail

Continue your exploration of the rainforest and it's endless diversity by hiking in the Terra Firme forest, which is traversed by many creeks that wind their way towards the Tambopata River. Our main focus during this activity is to have an in-depth understanding of the surrounding forest and creek ecology.

## The Rainforest Master Hike

This is the perfect outing for the hardcore hiker and nature lover. Crisscrossing through an array of ecosystems and an endless network of trails, this hike will take around 6 hours and maximize your opportunities for wildlife. Bring plenty of water and repellent!!!!

## Night Walk

Walking through the rainforest at night challenges all your senses. In deep darkness, surrounded by an array of jungle sounds and with the aid of your guide's powerful spotlight, you enter a world inhabited by

the most unique, diverse and shy night creatures. If fortunate, you will be able to find poison dart frogs, night monkeys, tarantulas, amphibians and insects with the most unique adaptations to life under the cover of darkness.

## Macaw project nest visit

TRC is the home of the Macaw Project. Scientists are conducting macaw research in Tambopata for the past 30 years. During this activity, you have a rare opportunity to observe first-hand the work done by the researchers as they climb giant trees to monitor natural and artificial nest sites around TRC. Nest sites are located close to ninety meter above ground. Researchers with the help of climbing gear reach the nests sites in order to collect the macaw chicks. Carefully placed on plastic buckets the chicks are lowered to the forest ground where researches will weigh and measure the chicks to monitor growth and also check for parasites. Once the monitoring is done, chicks are placed back in their nests.

## Macaw Project Lectures

After dinner scientists will provide an in depth look at the biology of macaws. You will learn about their feeding habits, the theories for clay lick use, their breeding and feeding ecology, population fluctuations and the threats to their conservation. These lectures also will provide you with an opportunity to find out how to get involved and/or support this amazing project.